



Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services
Division of Environmental Health and Communicable Disease Prevention
Section for Communicable Disease Prevention

HIV Counseling, Testing & Referral Program QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

January – March 2005

CTR Updates

Rapid Testing

REMINDER – Please carefully monitor the expiration dates on your rapid testing kits. Due to the expense of each kit (approximately \$17.00) and the limited budget we have to purchase and provide these kits to you, you need to track the expiration dates closely so that no kits expire. If you have kits that have upcoming expiration dates and you know you will not be able to use them at your site, please call your site coordinator immediately. These kits will be redistributed to other sites that can use them before expiration. Failure to notify your site coordinator until after kits have expired could result in a reduction or elimination of your allotment.

FDA-Approved Rapid HIV Antibody Screening Test Comparison

For a comparison of FDA-approved rapid tests, please see the attached chart.

Program Evaluation Monitoring System (PEMS)

The State CTR Program continues to work towards PEMS implementation. Scanners have been purchased that will be placed in the high volume CTR sites to allow for scanning to be accomplished at those local levels. We are in the process of purchasing the software that will enable us to validate, interpret and upload the data to CDC. During the 2nd quarter, staff will work closely with CDC to install the software in the Central Office and participate in Web-based trainings.

We have received a hard copy draft “bubble sheet” from CDC. They will also be sending us an electronic version. A copy will be forwarded to you once we receive it.

OraSure Pilot Project

In December, a Request for Proposals (RFP) was distributed to local public health agencies, family planning agencies and planned parenthoods to solicit proposals for agencies interested in implementing innovative projects and/or activities to increase testing in high-risk populations. Two proposals met the criteria outlined in the RFP and were awarded a maximum of 200 OraSure kits. The two agencies were Pettis County Health Center and the North East Community Action Corporation (NECAC) Family Planning Center.

NECAC Family Planning began testing in March. They tested 11 individuals. No positives were identified. Pettis County did not begin testing in the 1st quarter.

Hepatitis

Missouri Hepatitis Vaccination Initiative

The Missouri Hepatitis Vaccination Initiative continues to offer vaccinations for hepatitis A and B at over 80 health departments. County health departments can still enroll in the initiative by calling Elaine Pherigo at (573) 526-5833.

Hepatitis A and B Vaccinations Offered at Gay Pride Events in June

Hepatitis A and B vaccinations will be offered at Gay Pride Events in Kansas City and St. Louis during June. For more information, contact the Kansas City Health Department at (816) 513-6142 or the American Liver Foundation in St. Louis at (314) 352-7377.

Funding for Statewide Hepatitis C Testing

Funding is currently being sought that will finance statewide Hepatitis C testing. This is a collaborative project between DHSS, Department of Mental Health and the American Liver Foundation. HCV testing is currently available at the Columbia-Boone County Health Department, and through the Missouri Hepatitis C Alliance and RAIN in Columbia.

Hepatitis B Test Result Interpretation

Hepatitis B test results can be confusing. Below is a list of test interpretations:

HBsAg (hepatitis B surface antigens): This test detects the presence of the virus and determines viral levels in the blood. A positive or reactive result means the person is infected with HBV at the present time and can pass the virus to others.

Anti-HBs (antibody to the hepatitis B surface antigen): A positive or reactive result means that the person is immune, either as a result of having had the disease or from receiving the hepatitis B vaccine. This person cannot pass the virus to others.

Anti-HBc (antibody to hepatitis B core antigen): This result usually indicates the person is a chronic carrier and can pass the virus to others. When this result accompanies a positive anti-HBs result, it is associated with recovery from a previous infection, and the person is not a carrier.

Anti-HBeAg: An HBeAg+ patient is infectious. 90% of pregnant HBeAg+ women will pass the infection to the fetus. A patient with chronic active hepatitis is usually symptomatic and positive for HBsAg and HBeAg. A patient with chronic persistent hepatitis is usually asymptomatic and is positive for HBsAg and Anti-Hbe.

In The Next Issue

Update from the Perinatal Hepatitis B Program

STDS

Syphilis Outbreak Status Update

St Louis

St. Louis has had 21 confirmed cases of early syphilis as of April 14. Of those 21 cases, 13 were self-identifying MSM. 12 of the 13 were previous HIV+ clients.

Springfield

Springfield has had 7 cases of early syphilis as of April 14. All 7 were self-identifying MSM. 1 client was co-infected with HIV.

Community Syphilis Elimination Advisory Group (CSEAG) Meetings

CSEAG meetings will be held on May 12, June 9 and July 14 at Harris-Stowe State College in St. Louis.

For more information on the outbreaks or CSEAG meetings, please contact Melissa VanDyne, Syphilis Elimination Coordinator, at (573) 751-6129.

Statistics

Missouri CTR* Report		
1st Quarter 2005		
(Blood and Oral based on SPHL reports. Rapid based on site reports.)		
	# Tests	# Positive
January - Blood	1,713	13
January - Oral	307	6
January - Rapid**	175	6
TOTAL	2,195	25
February - Blood	1,639	10
February - Oral	518	2
February - Rapid**	200	3
TOTAL	2,357	15
March - Blood	1,966	21
March - Oral	667	9
March - Rapid**	237	7
TOTAL	2,870	37
QUARTERLY TOTAL		
*CTR sites include those sites funded for CTR services and the agencies they subcontract with or provide testing supplies to (41 sites)		
** 9 Rapid Testing Sites		

Lab Notes

After 35 years with the State Public Health Laboratory, Richard Walkenbach, Laboratory Manager for the Immunology Unit, retired at the end of March. A dinner was held in his honor at the Eagles Club in Jefferson City. He plans to spend his time hunting, fishing and traveling. Richard's laboratory expertise will be greatly missed.

STATE PUBLIC HEALTH LAB CONTACT INFORMATION

Allen Hedrick Senior Scientist, Immunology Unit hedria@dhss.mo.gov PH: 573-751-0633	Technical questions on test procedures Test result interpretation Problems obtaining supplies
Sonya Henson hensos@dhss.mo.gov PH: 573-526-8169	Statistics
Jeremy Wilson Wilsoj2@dhss.mo.gov PH: 573-751-0633	SPHL Rapid HIV Testing Contact Technical questions on rapid HIV test procedures Rapid test result interpretation
Bonnie Ahart ahartb@dhss.mo.gov PH: 573-526-3799	Questions on courier schedules
Linda Herigon herigl@dhss.mo.gov PH: 573-751-4599	Ordering supplies

For Review

Screening injecting drug users for sexually transmitted infections and blood borne viruses using street outreach and self collected sampling, *Sexually Transmitted Infections*; 2005;81; P. 53-58 www.bmjjournals.com/cgi/reprintform

Syphilis in the HIV-Infected Patient: An Update on Epidemiology, Diagnosis, and Management; *Current HIV Reports*; 2004;I; P. 142-147

Infection with multidrug resistant, dual-tropic HIV-1 and rapid progression to AIDS: a case report; *Lancet*; 2005: 365:1031-38 www.thelancet.com

Tape of Satellite Broadcast Available – If anyone is interested in reviewing the satellite broadcast, Partner Counseling and Referral Services for HIV Prevention, from April 21, please contact Ingrid.

Upcoming Events

May 12, June 9, July 14	CSEAG Meetings (See STD Section)
June 16 and 17	Statewide CPG Meeting
June 27	National HIV Testing Day www.napwa.org/hivtestinfo/

Contact Information

Staff Update: Stephanie Fitzpatrick has joined the Central Office CTR staff. Stephanie will be the point person for scanning and ordering CTR forms and will be assisting Amy in report generation. Welcome, Stephanie!

State CTR Program Contact Information

Ingrid Denney CTR Coordinator dennei@dhss.mo.gov Ph: 417-895-6909 FAX: 417-895-7443 Cell: 417-234-4328	CTR policies/procedures HIV Laws and Rules
Amy Holterman CTR Evaluation Manager holtea@dhss.mo.gov Ph: 573-751-6119 FAX: 573-751-6447 Cell: 573-619-2337	Data and statistical needs
Cheryl Blaise Training Coordinator/DIS blaisc@dhss.mo.gov Ph: 660-385-1755 FAX: 660-385-6214 Cell: 660-384-1363	Trainings provided by MDHSS
Rachel Figard Senior Office Support Assistant figarr@dhss.mo.gov Ph: 573-751-6124 FAX: 573-751-6447	Assign counselor and site numbers Contact for training registration

<p>Stephanie Fitzpatrick Office Support Assistant fitzps@dhss.mo.gov Ph: 573-522-9071 FAX: 573-751-6447</p>	<p>Contact for scan forms (ordering, scanning)</p>
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Training Updates

2005 STD/HIV Training Course Update

The training courses offered have been updated to reflect the changing environment of STD/HIV counselor needs and to include the integration of hepatitis into HIV Prevention. The following are course descriptions. The training calendar for 2005 follows on the next page.

HIV Prevention Counseling (HPC)

Formerly Fundamentals of HIV Prevention Counseling, this course is designed to develop a counselor's proficiency in conducting HIV Prevention Counseling. The focus of this course is to enable counselors to more effectively support clients to 1) identify their personal HIV risk behavior and circumstances; 2) identify specific risk reduction goals; and 3) develop a realistic, personalized action plan to achieve these goals. One unit of this course will focus on hepatitis and other STDs and how they are related to HIV transmission. A pre-requisite for this course is basic HIV knowledge.

Oral Test Method (OTM)

This course prepares participants to collect oral specimens for HIV antibody detection and to educate clients about the oral test method. Participants will build skills in specimen collection by performing an oral test. A pre-requisite for this course is attendance at HPC training and an approved plan to use this method of testing.

Partner Counseling and Referral Services (PCRS)

This course is designed for selected staff in agencies that deliver positive HIV results to clients. The curriculum focuses on services for individuals recently diagnosed with HIV and their sex and needle-sharing partners. Participants will build skills in partner elicitation, partner counseling and referral service provision. A pre-requisite for this course is HPC and participants must be registered by the counseling, testing and referral site (lead agency) in their area of the state.

HIV Rapid Test Method

This course prepares the participant to collect oral or blood specimens for rapid HIV antibody detection. A pre-requisite for this course is HPC and PCRS and participants must be registered by the counseling, testing and referral site (lead agency) in their area of the state.

Registrations

All registrations must go through the Section for Communicable Disease Prevention staff, with priority given to contracted agencies with the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. All courses have limited space available and are offered free of charge. **Registration deadlines will be strictly adhered to, so early registration is recommended.**

Training Calendar

2005 STD/HIV Training Calendar

HIV Prevention Counseling and Oral Test Method

Dates	City	Location	Registration Deadline
January 25, 26, 27, 2005	St. Charles, MO	St. Charles County Department of Community Health and the Environment 1650 Boone's Lick Road	January 10, 2005
March 8, 9, 10, 2005	Independence, MO	Northwest District Health Office 3717 Whitney Avenue	February 21, 2005
May 17, 18, 19, 2005	Columbia, MO	Regional AIDS Interfaith Network 4250 E. Broadway, Suite 1055	May 2, 2005
July 18, 19, 20, 2005	St. Charles, MO	St. Charles County Department of Community Health and the Environment 1650 Boone's Lick Road	July 1, 2005
September 12, 13, 14, 2005	Independence, MO	Northwest District Health Office 3717 Whitney Avenue	August 29, 2005
October 5, 6, 7, 2005	Springfield, MO	Southwest District Health Office 1414 W. Elfindale	September 19, 2005

Partner Counseling and Referral Services**

Dates	City	Location	Registration Deadline
April 13 and 14, 2005	Jefferson City	Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services 930 Wildwood Drive Oak Conference Room	March 28, 2005
November 2 and 3, 2005	Jefferson City	Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services 930 Wildwood Drive Oak Conference Room	October 17, 2005

**** Prerequisite – HIV Prevention Counseling**

For information or to register for these trainings, please call Rachel Figard at the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, Section for Communicable Disease Prevention at (573) 751-6124 or 1 (866) 628-9891.

Rapid Testing Sites

Staff Update: Stephenie Koester, CTR Coordinator at St. Louis Metro AIDS, resigned her position effective April 8, 2005. Stephenie has taken a position with the Champaign Urbana Public Health District in Illinois. In the interim, Ron Lansford has assumed Stephenie's duties. Contact information for Ron can be found below. We wish Stephenie the best in her new position.

<p>St. Louis Metro AIDS 634 N. Grand St. Louis, MO 63103 PH: 314-612-5188 Contact: Ron Lansford Lansfordr@stlouiscity.com</p>	<p>Kansas City Health Department 2400 Troost Kansas City, MO 64108 PH: 816-513-6074 Contact: Latrice Parker Latrice_Parker@kcmo.org</p>
<p>Columbia-Boone Co. Health Dept. 1005 W. Worley, PO Box 6015 Columbia, MO 65205-6015 PH: 573-874-7536 Contact: Bill Monroe BKM@gocolumbiamo.com</p>	<p>Springfield-Greene Co. Health Dept. 227 E. Chestnut Expressway Springfield, MO 65802 PH: 417-864-1303 Contact: Robin Hilburn Robin_hilburn@ci.springfield.mo.us</p>
<p>St. Joseph-Buchanan Co. Health Dept. 904 S. 10th St. Joseph, MO 64503 PH: 816-271-4725 Contact: Brenda Griffin bgriffin@ci.st-joseph.mo.us</p>	<p>SE Health Education & Risk Reduction 413 Poplar, PO Box 1324 Poplar Bluff, MO 63902-1324 PH: 573-686-5283 Contact: Rhonda Wilkes seherr@imsinternet.net</p>
<p>Joplin City Health Department 513 Kentucky Joplin, MO 64801 PH: 417-623-6122 Contact: Paula Wallace pwallace@joplino.org</p>	<p>AIDS Project of the Ozarks 1900 E. Bennett Springfield, MO 65804 PH: 417-881-1900 Contact: Tina Bennett tinabennettapo@yahoo.com</p>
<p>Kansas City Free Health Clinic 3515 Broadway Kansas City, MO 64111 PH: 816-777-2769 Contact: Jamie Stevens jamies@kcfree.org</p>	